

SUPER SOCKS FOR COURAGE



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Mr. S does so many brave things, the mayor gives him a medal for courage.

The medal is in the shape of Mr. S's super socks.

"Mayor, this medal gives me an idea," says Mr. S.

"Every year I will give a 'Super Socks Medal for Courage' to the bravest person I can find."

"How will you find this brave person?"

asks the mayor.

"I will fly everywhere and search," says Mr. S.



Before Mr. S starts his search, Scott, Sari, and Susie come to his house.

“Mr. S,” says Scott, “you are very brave. I am not.

I am scared.

Can you help me?”

“I’ll try,” says Mr. S.

“But first tell me why you are scared.”

“I’ll tell you,” says Scott, “but it’s a secret.”

Scott and Mr. S walk into another room.

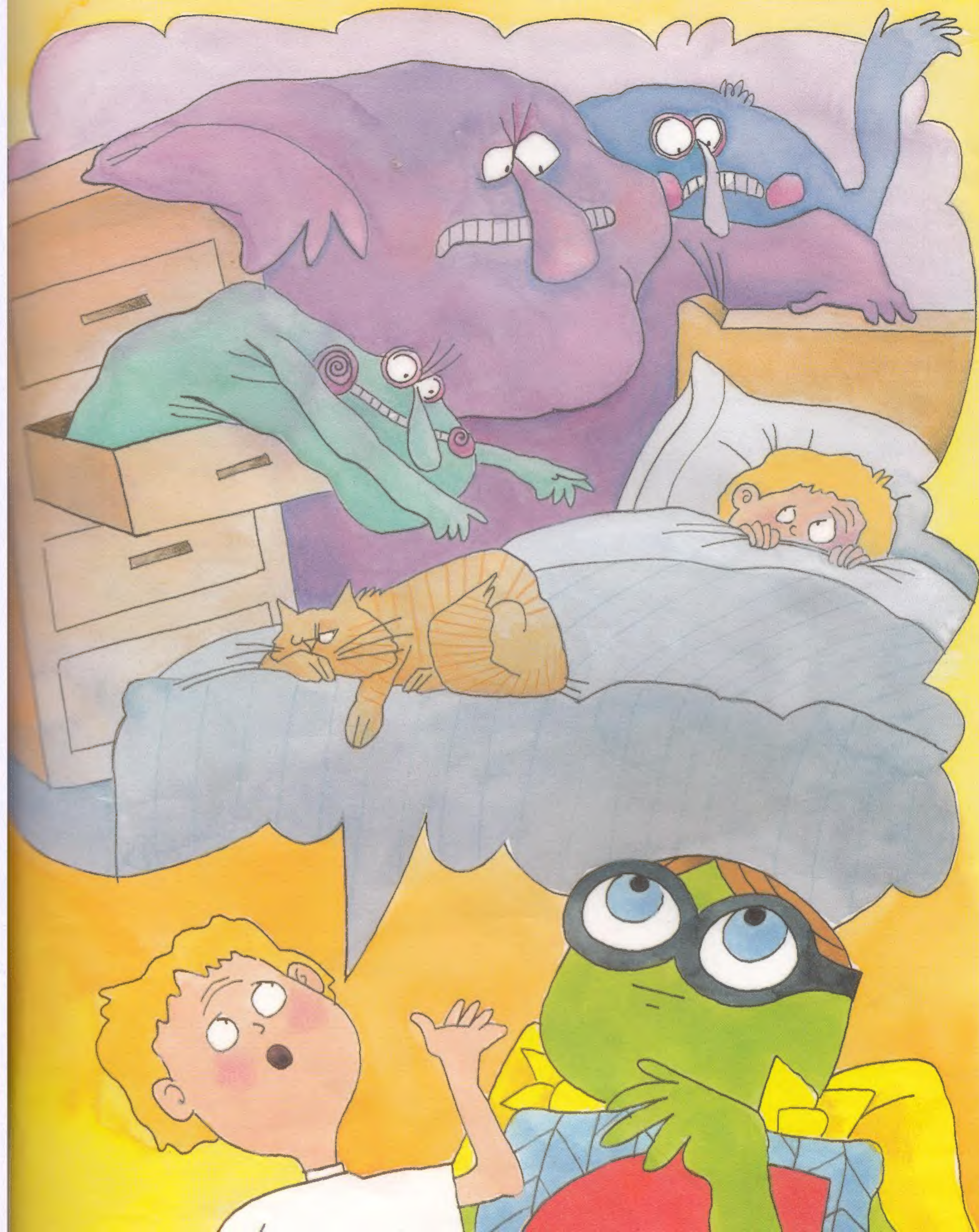


"Mr. S," says Scott, "I am scared of the dark.
At night I think monsters are staring at me.
I can't sleep.

Then the next day, I'm so tired
I fall asleep in school."

"Once I was scared of the dark,
so I understand how you feel," says Mr. S. kindly.
"I'll make a special super sock to help you sleep
in the dark.

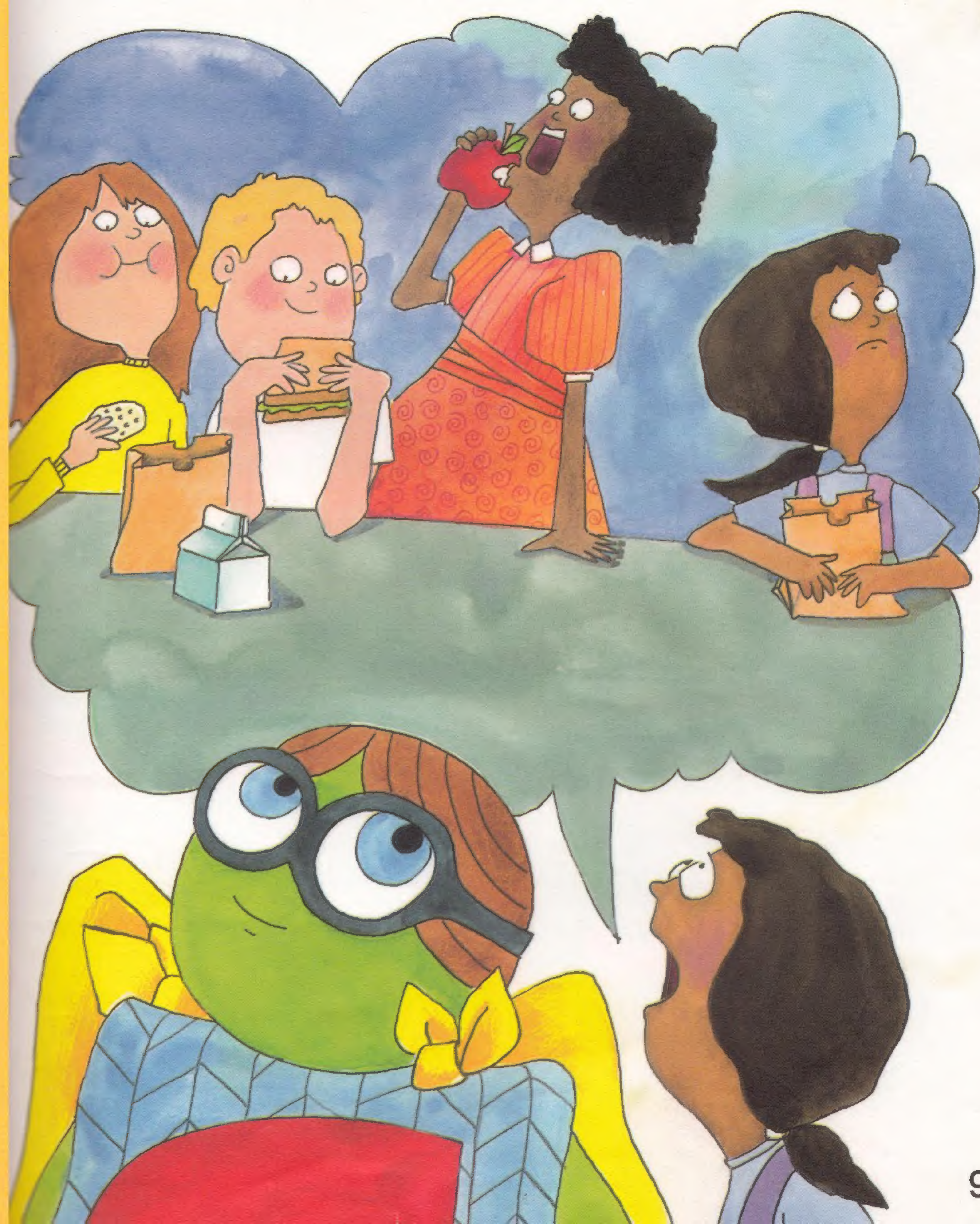
Come back to see me tomorrow."



Next, Sari speaks to Mr. S alone.

"Mr. S," says Sari, "I can only eat special foods. My snacks are different from other children's. I never open my snacks at snack time because I'm scared the children will laugh at me for being different."

"Sari, I understand how you feel," says Mr. S. "I am the only letter person who can fly. I used to be afraid the other letter people would laugh at me because I was different. I will make a special super sock to help you at snack time. Come back tomorrow."



Susie waits until Scott and Sari have left.
Then she says, "Mr. S, I'm scared to speak
to the other children in school.
I'm new in this school, and I don't know anyone."
"When I first came to Letter People Land
I didn't know anyone," says Mr. S.
"I was scared to speak to so many new people.
I will make a special super sock to help you speak
to the other children.
Come back tomorrow."



Mr. S starts to make the special super socks.
First, he makes a super sock for Susie.
He sews and he snips.
He uses strings and snaps.
Soon he has a super sock puppet.
“This is Susie’s Super Sock for Speaking.
This puppet will help Susie speak
to the other children in school,” says Mr. S.
“Now I’ll work on a super sock for Scott.”



Mr. S finds a small battery and a small light bulb.
He stitches and he staples.
He uses scissors and spray paint.
“Scott’s Super Sock for Sleeping will light up
in the dark,” smiles Mr. S.
Then Mr. S works on a super sock for Sari.
He finds out what special foods Sari eats.
He shops and he wraps.
He stuffs Sari’s super sock with surprise snacks.
“This is Sari’s Super Sock for Snacking.
It will help Sari at snack time,” says Mr. S.



The next day, Susie comes to Mr. S's house.
"Susie," smiles Mr. S, "here is your special
Super Sock for Speaking.
It is a super sock puppet.
When you feel too scared to talk to the other
children, let the puppet talk for you."
"I'll try, Mr. S," smiles Susie.
She thanks Mr. S and leaves
with her super sock puppet.



Next, Scott comes to see Mr. S.
“Here is your Super Sock for Sleeping,” says Mr. S.
“How will this super sock help me?” asks Scott.
“Let’s go into a room that is dark,” says Mr. S.
“Now squeeze your special super sock.”
“My super sock lights up in the dark!” cries Scott.
“Now at night I will see that there are no monsters
to scare me,” smiles Scott.
Scott thanks Mr. S and leaves
with his super sock light.



Then Sari comes to see Mr. S.
“Here is your Super Sock for Snacking.
Look inside it, Sari,” smiles Mr. S.
Sari sees many small, wrapped packages.
“Each one is a surprise snack for you,” says Mr. S.
“This is like a grab-bag of snacks!” says Sari.
“I can’t wait for snack time to come,
so I can open a surprise snack package.
Thank you, Mr. S, for my special super sock.”



After Mr. S helps the children, he goes away to search for the bravest person he can find. As soon as Mr. S returns, he goes to school to see Scott, Sari, and Susie.

Mr. S sees that Scott is not tired anymore. He sees the other children helping Sari pull a surprise snack out of her super sock.

They all eat their snacks together.

Mr. S sees Susie speaking to the other children with her super sock puppet.

"The super socks are helping the children," smiles Mr. S.



Mr. S goes away again for several weeks. He is still searching for the bravest person. When Mr. S returns, he visits the school again. Susie sees Mr. S first. She hands him her Super Sock for Speaking. "I want you to give this special super sock to someone else who needs it," says Susie. "Sometimes I am still scared to speak to the other children, but now I know I can do it by myself." "Susie, I am so proud of you," says Mr. S.



“Take our super socks, too,” say Sari and Scott.
“Use them to help other children.”
“My super sock still helps me,” says Scott.
“But now I know I can try to sleep without it.”
“My super sock still helps me,” says Sari.
“But from now on I’ll bring my own snacks.
I’ll eat them even though my snacks are different.”
“I am so proud of each of you,” smiles Mr. S.
“I don’t have to search for a brave person anymore.”
“Why not?” ask the children.
“It’s a secret,” smiles Mr. S.



Mr. S tells the mayor he is ready to present the 'Super Socks Medal for Courage.'
Everyone comes to the award presentation.
"This year I learned that there are different kinds of courage," says Mr. S.
"There is the courage to speak when you are scared to speak.
There is the courage to sleep in the dark when you are scared of the dark.
There is the courage to be different from everyone else when you are scared others will laugh at you.
It takes a lot of courage to do these things."



“This year, three brave children will each be awarded a ‘Super Socks Medal for Courage’,” smiles Mr. S.
“Susie, Scott, and Sari taught me that there are children who are brave every day.
They can teach you about different kinds of courage, too.”

